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December 31, 1974

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Re: Dr. Herbert L. Ratcliffe

Dr. H. Ratcliffe, former Director of the Penrose Research Laboratory of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia, is interested in renewing his investigation of lung cancer and cardiovascular disease in zoo animals, especially those maintained in an outdoor environment. His previous findings of increased lung cancer incidence in Philadelphia zoo animals provided valuable data bearing on lung cancer's complex etiology.

We have been acquainted with Dr. Ratcliffe and his research for a number of years. He has consulted with us concerning various scientific matters including his own animal work and that of others (Dr. Auerbach); he prepared a preliminary statement for the 1969 Congressional hearings; and he was filmed in a most interesting interview as a part of the first Australian film (1970) on smoking and health. Portions of this filmed interview were included in the Tobacco Institute film "Smoking and Health: The Need to Know."

Dr. Ratcliffe retired from his position as Director of the Penrose Research Laboratory and in 1971 moved to Bern, Switzerland, where he was a Guest Professor of Comparative Pathology at the University of Bern.

Recently, Dr. Ratcliffe returned to Philadelphia, where he is making pathological examinations on small animals used in Dr. Domingo Aviado's current inhalation studies.

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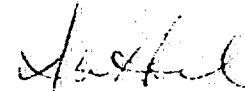
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Dr. Ratcliffe has submitted a preliminary proposal to examine postmortem records and histological specimens of certain zoo-kept animals to investigate the influence of aging and environmental pollutants on the development of lung cancer and atherosclerosis. He wants to examine records and specimens at zoos located in Philadelphia, St. Louis, Chicago, San Diego and Washington, D. C. The study period would be for one year and Dr. Ratcliffe anticipates that he will publish the results of his investigations shortly after the conclusion of the study in December of 1975. A brief outline of Dr. Ratcliffe's proposal, including his budget of \$15,275, is enclosed. If favorably considered, we would obtain a more detailed proposal from him.

Research involving environmental pollutants is of great interest and this project should produce useful data. We believe that Dr. Ratcliffe is worthy of support and recommend favorable consideration of his proposal for funding as a Special Project. Please advise us as soon as possible of your decision.

Sincerely,



Donald K. Hoel

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Enc.

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cc: Alexander Holtzman, Esq.
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